(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Singapore and Malaysia have banned cable TV connections to homes and China has imposed a lot of restrictions, but in India it is a free-for-all;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Supreme Court has said in its recent judgement that the "air
' waves" are public property" and that the right to use "air waves" has to be controlled by an "independent authority"; and

(f) if so, the import of this judgement and the steps being taken by Government in pursuant thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) There is at present no licensing of television broadcasting in India as private broadcasting is not permitted in the country.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) According to the judgement the Central Government shall take immediate steps to establish an independent autonomous public authority representative of all sections and interests in th e society to control and regulate the use of airwaves. Government is in the
' process of finalising a comprehensive broadcasting law for the country.

Promotions In the cadre of UDC & Assistants

5337. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION "AMD BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that service rendered on long term basis in UDC's grade and Assistant's grade in his Ministry are being counted few* eligibility for promotion to next higher grade and proceeding on deputation: and

(b) if so, the number of such UDCs and Assistants who got promotion as Assistants and Section Officer respectively and proceeded on deputation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) I. For Promotion Yes, Sir.

II. For Proceeding on deputation : No, Sir.

(b) I. No UDC or Assistant got promotion by counting service rendered on long term basis for determining eligibility for promotion during the last three years i.e. 1992, 1993 and 1994.

II. Quesiton does not arise.

Programmes on National Integration and Communal Harmony

5338. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for telecast of new programmes for national integration and communal harmony that have been approved by Government during the year 1994-95; and

(b) the details thereof, and the steps taken thereon by Government in this regard?